

June 14, 2022

**Empire Township Board
Regular Meeting**

Supervisor Carl Noonan called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Township Hall. Present were members Deegan, Casey Noonan, Price, and Neiswonger. Motion-Deegan; support-Casey Noonan to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2022 regular meeting as written. All ayes.

Campground Report: Manager, Yolanda Bertaud, related that a storage shed might be needed at the park to store boxes of yearly paper records. The Clerk will reassess the need with the manager.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Price reported on CDs and bank accounts as of 05-31-2022. Trustee Deegan asked if the Treasurer had ever checked into possibly placing some airport funds into a CD to earn better interest, which the Treasurer agreed to check into. Report received as read.

Planning & Zoning Report: 1.) Zoning Administrator, Tim Cypher, issued the following permits/approvals in May: 1) Airport hangar-Benzonia Tr. 2) New dwelling-Empire Hwy. 3) Change of Use to dwelling-MacFarlane Rd. 4) Deck expansion-Bow Rd. 5) Accessory bldg.-Leelanau Hwy. 6) Land division-Plowman Rd. 2.) Trustee Micah Deegan reported that a new draft of a Glen Lake Watershed Overlay District, which includes quite a few changes, is available on the Glen Lake Association's website. Dick Figura, Carl Noonan and Micah Deegan will meet to discuss the changes. In addition, Planning was getting close to a draft Master Plan for the Board's review.

Supervisor Report: 1.) Board received further information from the Sleeping Bear Marathon Special Event request, but discussed that it not adequately address the concerns regarding traffic flow along LaCore Road with the event using the full roadway on the daylong event. As such, the Board decided to require that at least a four foot area be coned on the west side of LaCore Road for runners to utilize for the race. The Clerk will also notify County Emergency Management and the Sheriff's Department of this requirement. The Board tabled the request until the requirement is written in the Special Event packet.

Clerk Report: 1.) Clerk informed the Board that the Treasurer and Clerk have decided to apply for a new township credit card through State Savings Bank and discontinue the Huntington Bank credit card. After discussion, the Board decided to increase the credit limit to \$5,000 rather than Huntington's limit of \$1,000. 2.) Motion-Deegan; support-Casey Noonan to pay the June 2022 monthly bills as presented and attached. All ayes.

Final Business: 1.) Fire Chief Ferguson reported that the department had 51 calls in May. 2.) Resident Mary Hagan asked if Empire Township would consider offering a township-wide trash pickup day like Glen Arbor Township does. The Clerk will check with the Glen Arbor Clerk for information regarding the costs to offer a trash pickup day to see if it is financially possible for Empire. Mary also asked about the status of the new Township Fire Station and was told the new station is still being reviewed. 3.) Kaitlin Olmstead introduced herself as the Adaptive Planner for the redoing of the Glen Lake Manor along Glenmere Road. The Board affirmed it was good to see the Manor being renovated for use.

All business being concluded the meeting was adjourned by the Supervisor at 8:17 p.m.

Christine M. Neiswonger, Clerk